

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, OECD, JA

SUBJ: JAPANESE PROPOSAL FOR OECD RESEARCH PROJECT ON IN-
DUSTRIAL SOCIET IN YEAR 2000

1. SUMMARY. GOJ ANXIOUS TO OBTAIN US SUPPORT FOR SUBJECT INITIATIVE. GOJ PREPARED CONTRIBUTE \$1 MILLION. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER YOSHINO HOPES HAVE OPPORTUNITY DISCUSS WITH ACTING SECRETARY, UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON AND POLICY PLANNING DIRECTOR LORD DURING HIS VISIT WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK FOR US-GOJ PLANNING TALKS. END SUMMARY.

2. ON MARCH 19, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER YOSHINA (FORMERLY AMB TO OECD) CALLED IN E/C MINISTER TO SOLICIT US SUPPORT FOR PROJECT GOJ HAS BEEN ENDEAVORING FOR SOME MONTHS TO LAUNCH IN OECD. PROPOSAL IS TO HAVE OECD FINANCE A PROPOSED 3-YEAR RESEARCH PROJECT ON "THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL SOCIETIES IN HARMONY WITH THAT OF LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES". YOSHINO GAVE US COPY OF RESTRICTED NOTE FROM OECD SEC GEN DATED JAN 15, 1975 WITH SYMBOL DSTI/PSG/75/33 WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO HEADS OF DELEGATIONS IN PARIS FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSION. (MAIN POINTS SUMMARIZED BELOW BUT IF WASH DOES NOT HAVE OR CANNOT READILY LOCATE THIS MEMO, WE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WILL SEND FULL TEXT TELEGRAPHICALLY IF DESIRED.) MEMO

DESCRIBES GOJ CONVICTION IT NO LONGER POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE PROSPERITY BY SIMPLE EXTRAPOLATION OF PAST POLICIES, YET GOVERNMENTS (PRESSED BY IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS) HAVE LITTLE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY BASIC PROBLEMS FROM LONGER-TERM PERSPECTIVE AND TO EFFECT REQUIRED FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN POLICIES. GOJ PROPOSED 3 YEAR RESEARCH PROJECT TO DRAW UP SYSTEMATIC ANALYSIS OF LONG-TERM-ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRENDS, TO MAKE A TENTATIVE DESCRIPTION OF ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY AT BEGINNING OF 21ST CENTURY, AND IDENTIFY LINES OF POLICY CONDUCTIVE TO ITS REALIZATION IN HARMONY WITH SOUND DEVELOPMENT OF PRESENT LDCS. MEMO FROM SECGEN RECORDS HIS OWN WARM ENDORSEMENT, LISTS OPPORTUNITIES FOR OECD COUNTRIES IF JAPANESE INITIATIVE FOLLOWED UP AND NOTES SEVERAL OECD MEMBER GOVERNMENTS HAVE INDICATED THEY WOULD BE READY TO CONTRIBUTE TO SUCH A STUDY.

3. YOSHINO SAID GOJ READY TO CONTRIBUTE UP TO \$1 MILLION IF CONTRIBUTION FROM OTHER OECD COUNTRIES PRODUCE FUND OF \$3 OR \$4 MILLION TO FINANCE 3-YEAR STUDY. YOSHINO SAID GOJ FLEXIBLE ABOUT MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION BUT WANTED IT TO BE PRAGMATIC AND POLICY-ORIENTED, NOT RPT NOT AN ACADEMIC EXERCISE IN FUTUROLOGY. GOJ DID NOT THINK IT COULD BE CARRIED OUT BY OECD ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL BASIS AND YOSHINO VISUALIZED OECD CO-MISSIIONING EMINENT PERSONALITIES OR WELL-KNOWN RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS BROOKINGS, GOETHE INSTITUTE, ETC. TO DO ACTUAL STUDY.

4. YOSHINO CLAIMED THAT WHILE AMB TURNER AND UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON WERE FAVORABLY DISPOSED THERE HAS BEEN NO CONFIRMATION OF OFFICIAL US SUPPORT. YOSHINO SAID GOJ IS ANXIOUS TO GET PROJECT LAUNCHED AND HE IS WORRIED THAT PROMISED SUPPORT BY OTHERS MAY DISAPPEAR IF DELAYED MUCH LONGER (HE CITED POSSIBLE DUTCH PROBLEM OF CARRYING OVER TO NEXT FISCAL YEAR FUNDS TENTATIVELY EARMARKED FOR THIS PROJECT).

5. YOSHINO ADVISED US HE WILL ATTEND US-GOJ PLANNING TALKS IN WASH NEXT WEEK AND HE HOPES HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE ACTING SECRETARY ON THIS MATTER AND ALSO WANTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO DISCUSS IT PRIVATELY WITH LORD DURING BREAK IN PLANNING TALKS. HE SAID APPROACH TO E/C MIN TODAY WAS AT REQUEST OF FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAWA WHO HAD INTENDED DISCUSS PROJECT WITH AMBASSADOR MARCH 18 BUT TIME RAN OUT ON OTHER AGENDA ITEMS.
HODGSON

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